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The Prairie View Standard

DEVOTED TO THE EDUCATIONAL AND GENERAL IMPROVEMENT OF THE NEGROES OF TEXAS

VOL. VI.

PRAIRIE VIEW, WALLER COUNTY, TEXAS, SATURDAY, JULY 1, 1916

NO. 16

THE STATE COLORED FARMERS CONGRESS

The State Colored Farmers Congress promises to be a very interesting session this time, judging from the number and nature of inquiries coming to this office and, as Principal of P. V., and a firm believer in the virtue of the soil, the possibilities of agriculture among the negroes of Texas, I am extending a cordial invitation to all persons in any way interested in the subject of agriculture to meet here from July 24th to 29th in regular annual session of the Colored Farmers Congress. Accommodations will be ample and everything possible done to make it a pleasant stay for all who come. The large auditorium or assembly hall has been completed; a new gallery with 500 seating capacity built therein and one thousand opera chairs installed. The sessions will be held in the commodious building and we are planning to have the chorus furnish some music for the entertainment of the visitors. A special choir loft has been constructed which places the singers in a decidedly advantageous position, being high above the heads of the audience and away from the main section of the chapel.

Besides the regular topics on the program to be published, Col. Ousley, Director of Extension Work in Texas, has kindly agreed to be present at one of the meetings and address the Congress. He also promises to furnish lecturers daily to speak to the Congress. These expert lecturers will bring a deal of valuable information worth coming to hear.

The time has come when we must take more advanced steps toward improving our standing along these lines. Every farmer and every person interested in farming and education is asked to come to Prairie View July 24 to 29 and be present at the Farmers Congress and incidentally at the closing of the summer session. This will be an occasion of special interest to all. We are making efforts to secure the same railroad rate as we had last year for the farmers' meeting—the same as that given to the white farmers at the A. & M. college. At least we shall get a 1-1-3 fare rate. Be sure to come and send your name in beforehand so we can provide accommodations. Send your name to the corresponding secretary, H. J. Mason, in order that he can have them properly recorded and accommodations provided. Come and help to make this a beneficial meeting.

I. M. Terrell,
Principal Prairie View State Normal and Industrial College.

The Statue of Liberty will be illuminated during all the hours of the night and the people of every State in the Union will have a part in the electric installation that will make this possible. France gave this statue to the whole United States as the gift of one free republic to another. It is right that all the people should have a part in lighting it so brightly that the beacon of liberty will be visible at all times to those who are seeking a safe harbor—and liberty.—Houston Post.



PRIN. TERRELL LECTURES THE SUMMER SCHOOL

On Saturday morning, June 24, in response to the call, the students and teachers of the Summer School assembled in the college chapel and listened to a remarkable and inspiring lecture by Principal Terrell.

The Principal discussed in a general way many things that commonly affect teachers in their several fields of labor, and charged them to be dutiful and faithful, real helpers among the people they must serve. The Principal believes firmly in strict obedience to constituted authority, and admonished all to the highest and best service, mentally, morally and physically, thus proving themselves not only good workmen, but worthy ones.

He also discussed his plan for further aid in securing the Y. M. C. A. building on which he has already collected over \$1,000.

One feature of the meeting was the address of Prof. P. A. Stamps an alumnus of the College and Principal of the Marlin Colored school. Prof. Stamps also plead for harmony and better service on the part of students going out from the College.

At the conclusion of the address in response to questions it was shown that the Principal had the united support of the teachers present, all of them offering their support in the work of erecting here on the campus, a Y. M. C. A. building that will be a lasting credit to the institution for generations, and of being more serviceable in every way in the communities they must serve.

STATE COLORED FARMERS CONGRESS JULY 24-29

Prairie View, Texas, June 25. —The State Colored Farmers Congress, which meets annually in connection with the Prairie View summer school, will convene a little earlier this year, the dates being July 24 to 29 inclusive. A special program is being arranged, and experts in agriculture and extension work have been secured to conduct a sort of agricultural institute. Clarence Ousley, director of extension work in Texas, will be present on at least one occasion to speak to the congress. Dr. J. J. Taubenhans, federal employe at College Station in connection with experiment work, who has been conducting watermelon blight tests at this school

during this season, will tell the farmers some of the things he has found out. The prospects are that this meeting will be one of the best in the history of the organization.

In view of the many probable contingencies that may come up in the future bearing on the progress of the race it is held that nothing is more important than a keener development of the aggregate agricultural knowledge. Especially does this apply with emphasis to the negro. The vast majority of the race are farmers and it is along this line that lies the salvation of the race. Realizing this large truth, an attempt is being made to get together at the coming meeting of the congress as many farmers and those interested in farming as possible. Friends of education and progress along all lines all over the state are asked to join us in the effort to improve conditions among the negro people.

A one-cent rate each way over the Houston and Texas Central railroad has been granted and efforts, which in all probability will succeed, are being made to secure this same rate over all the roads. The matter has been taken up with the general management of the railroads and is being pushed. Ample accommodations have been provided at the school for all who may attend. The improvements which have been made in the way of completing buildings, beautifying the grounds, etc., make the school in every way more attractive; and it will be worth the while of all who can to come and see the school and note its progress.

The program will be published soon. It is desired that any questions bearing on agriculture on which farmers may desire information be sent to the corresponding secretary, H. J. Mason, Prairie View, in order that they may be submitted to the program committee at once.

Prof. I. M. Terrell, principal of the Prairie View normal, extends a cordial invitation to the entire congress and assures it of a hearty welcome.

The summer school will be an interesting feature to those who have no actual knowledge of what a large organization it is—500 are enrolled.

Special arrangements for conveying visitors to the farmers meeting have been made. Automobiles will meet all delegates at the station.

PIG-CLUB RESULTS

Arouses Interest In Live Stock and Provides Profitable and Instructive Work for Members

The pig-club work has been carried on by the Bureau of Animal Industry of this department during the past year in co-operation with the State Agricultural Colleges of Alabama, Arkansas, California, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Nebraska, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, and Texas. Pig-clubs were organized among the farm children and proved a means of arousing further interest in live stock, and at the same time furnished

profitable and instructive work to the members.

The economic objects of the pig-clubs are: To teach the members how to raise better swine cheaply; to give the members a means of earning profits; and to afford the members a practical insight into the business side of farming. Indirectly, the improvement of the country and the general introduction of better and cheaper swine-raising methods are purposed.

Each pig-club member is required to keep a record of his pig-feeding work and report this at the end of the State contest. Many unusually successful records have been made. These are not typical of the work, but rather represent its possibilities. A summary and the averages of the work of many members give a better indication of the value of the pig-club work.

In the 13 States named, 11,632 members were enrolled in the pig clubs. Not all were active members, but most of these raised pigs. While a great many reported more or less completely on their work, 1,608 members from 11 States, with a membership of 11,032, reported completely on weights, values, gains in weight, costs of gains, and profits. No figures are available from California and Oregon, except as to the number of members.

The figures following are compiled from the complete reports. Seventeen hundred and eighty-three pigs were reported, or an average of 1.1 pigs per member. The majority of members took weanling pigs to feed in the spring and reported their results in the fall. The average weight per pig at the beginning of the feeding period was 39.2 pounds. At the end of the feeding period, which averaged 166 1-2 days, the pigs weighed 194 1-2 pounds. This was an average daily gain in weight of 0.93 pound, at a cost of \$0.004 per pound. This low cost of gain

can be attributed, it is believed, to the better feeding methods practiced and the wide use of forage crops by the members.

The original value of the pigs averaged \$5.24. The average final value was \$21.43, a gain in value of \$16.19. This gain in value cost \$6.91, giving an average net profit per pig of \$9.37 and an average net profit per member of \$10.29.

These figures are a strong indication that improved swine, raised in the right way, are profitable even when pork values are as low as they were in 1915. The vast majority of members had carefully selected high-grade and pure-bred hogs, and to this improved blood, as well as the better feeding methods, can be attributed the large difference in favor of the average final value of pig-club hogs in the fall—21.43, as compared with the estimated average value of all hogs on farms in the United States on January 1, 1916, \$8.40. The pig-club members have shown their ability as a body to raise pigs successfully. They have raised good pigs, cheap pigs, and profitable pigs.

Many are keeping their gilt pigs for breeding purposes. Some already have found it profitable to breed as well as to feed pigs. Fifty-six members reporting on their sows and litters an average profit of \$47.32. With the membership for this year doubled and most of the old members again on the rolls, the pig work should prove of even greater economic value in the future.

Strands of raffia are good for tying vines and shrubbery in place.

It is never economy to buy cheap eggs or meat. Only the best is good food.

If the eyes of a chicken are not full and bright the chicken is not fresh.

If you use a brick for an iron stand the iron will hold its heat much longer.

An Awakening

BY NAPOLEON B. EDWARD

The cool South breeze is swooning
Over the lea
And mockingbirds are spooning
Out in the tree
And Mother Earth slip on her blouse
Of purple green
And honey bees in slumber rouse
And break the dream.

And running vines are climbing
The garden gates
And piping wrens are chiming
For lonesome mates
And violets are bowing about
In regal blue
And tulips are poking wee heads out
Of April dew.

And leaping hares are gamb'ling
Across the hill
And Belles and Beaus are shambling
Along the rill
And all the dainties and daises
Are out in bloom
And the world sings on in praises
And sweet perfume.